

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A plugable call control application program interface, comprising:
 - 2 a base plugable call control application program interface to expose a common set
 - 3 of function calls, properties, and callbacks to be utilized by a plurality of call control
 - 4 protocols; and
 - 5 an extended application program interface to provide at least one of advanced
 - 6 function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set.

- 1 2. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 further including:
 - 3 a platform isolation layer having a reduced set of basic system functionality to
 - 4 interact with the base plugable call control application program interface and the
 - 5 extended application program interface; and
 - 6 a software application executing on a communications system that accesses the
 - 7 base plugable call control application program interface to initiate a communication
 - 8 utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

- 1 3. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 2,
2 wherein the communications system is a computer system.

- 1 4. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 2,
2 wherein the communications system is an embedded system.

1 5. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the plurality of call control protocols include at least one of an International
3 Telecommunication Union (ITU) H.323 protocol, a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and a
4 Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

1 6. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the call control protocols are Internet Protocol (IP) telephony call control protocols.

1 7. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the plugable call control application program interface is an American National
3 Standards Institute (ANSI) "C" application program interface.

1 8. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the at least one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks provide additional
3 protocol-specific functionality to at least one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 9. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the at least one advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common
3 set is accessed using the base plugable call control application program interface.

1 10. The plugable call control application program interface according to claim 1,
2 wherein the extended application program interface provides protocol specific information along
3 with base defined callbacks.

1 11. A method of performing call control on a communications system, the method
2 comprising:
3 providing a common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to be utilized
4 by a plurality of call control protocols;
5 providing at least one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks
6 beyond the common set; and
7 accessing the common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate a
8 communication utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 12. The method according to claim 11, further including:
2 providing a reduced set of basic system functionality to interact with the common
3 set of function calls, properties, and callbacks; and
4 executing a software application on a communications system to access the
5 common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate the communication
6 utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 13. The method according to claim 12, wherein the communications system is a
2 computer system.

1 14. The method according to claim 12, wherein the communications system is an
2 embedded system.

1 15. The method according to claim 11, wherein the plurality of call control protocols
2 include at least one of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) H.323 protocol, a
3 Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and a Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

1 16. The method according to claim 11, wherein the call control protocols are Internet
2 Protocol (IP) telephony call control protocols.

1 17. The method according to claim 11, further including providing with the at least
2 one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks additional protocol-specific
3 functionality to at least one of the plurality of call control protocol.

1 18. The method according to claim 11, wherein the at least one advanced function
2 calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set is accessed using the base plugable call
3 control application program interface.

1 19. The method according to claim 11, wherein the extended application program
2 interface provides protocol specific information along with base defined callbacks.

1 20. A communications system, comprising:
2 a computer-readable medium; and
3 computer-readable program code, stored on the computer-readable medium,
4 adapted to be loaded and executed on an operating system of the communications system,
5 the computer-readable program code performing,

providing a common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to be utilized by a plurality of call control protocols,

providing at least one of advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set, and

accessing the common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate a communication utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

21. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the computer-readable program code further performs:

providing a reduced set of basic system functionality to interact with the common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks; and

executing a software application on the communications system to access the common set of function calls, properties, and callbacks to initiate the communication utilizing one of the plurality of call control protocols.

1 22. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the plurality of call
2 control protocols include at least one of an International Telecommunication Union (ITU) H.323
3 protocol, a Session Initiation Protocol (SIP), and a Media Gateway Control Protocol (MGCP).

1 23. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the call control
2 protocols are Internet Protocol (IP) telephony call control protocols.

1 24. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the computer-
2 readable program code further performs providing with the at least one of advanced function
3 calls, properties, and callbacks additional protocol-specific functionality to at least one of the
4 plurality of call control protocols.

1 25. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the communications
2 system is a computer system.

1 26. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the communications
2 system is an embedded system.

1 27. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the at least one
2 advanced function calls, properties, and callbacks beyond the common set is accessed using the
3 base plugable call control application program interface.

1 28. The communications system according to claim 20, wherein the extended
2 application program interface provides protocol specific information along with base defined
3 callbacks.